

VZCZCXRO5040
OO RUEHTRO
DE RUEHAS #1037 3251737
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 211737Z NOV 09
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8138
INFO RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE 2215
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE 9253
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE 0170
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 0416
RUCNMGH/MAGHREB COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS ALGIERS 001037

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR ISN/CB - WEEKMAN
DEPT ALSO FOR ISN/CTR CAMERON AND KUO

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [CWC](#) [AG](#)
SUBJECT: ALGIERS-HOSTED CHEMICAL TERRORISM CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 116290

¶1. Pol-Econ Chief delivered reftel points to MFA Deputy Director for Disarmament Hamza Khelil November 19, and left a copy of the reftel proposed agenda. Khelil welcomed the conference as an example of U.S.-Algerian cooperation in disarmament. He gave no definitive answers to reftel proposals but said he would refer these decision issues to his superiors in the MFA's Office of Security and Disarmament Affairs. Organizational details including conference financing would be worked out between the MFA and the U.S. Embassy Algiers and between our embassies in The Hague.

¶2. Khelil noted that a decision on the conference date would have to take account of his office's need to prepare for and participate in the NPT Review Conference in May. He suggested that invitations to the conference be issued under the aegis of the OPCW, and asked whether the U.S. would co-sign the invitations with Algeria. As to conference speakers, he suggested inviting speakers on chemical and biological terrorism from organizations such as WHO and the UN 1540 committee, to make the conference more "international."

¶3. Khelil concluded by asking whether there had been follow-up to U.S. and Algerian embassies' discussion in The Hague about reinforcing the conference's hosting institution, the African Center for the Study and Research of Terrorism (CAERT), by furnishing it with an "analytical laboratory," whether in the framework of the OPCW or bilaterally between the U.S. and Algeria.
PEARCE